

Attorney Docket No.: UT-0030
Inventors: Rao et al.
Serial No.: 09/736,728
Filing Date: December 14, 2000
Page 3

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of the claims:

Claims 1-12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (currently amended): A method of obtaining glial cells comprising:

(a) providing glial restricted precursor cells expressing A2B5 antigen which are phenotypically distinct from O-2A progenitor cells and which are isolated by positive immunoselection with an A2B5 antibody selecting cells expressing A2B5 antigen; and

(b) plating the glial restricted precursor cells expressing A2B5 antigen which are phenotypically distinct from O-2A progenitor cells under differentiating conditions, thereby causing the glial restricted precursor cells expressing A2B5 antigen which are phenotypically distinct from O-2A progenitor cells to differentiate into glial cells.

Claim 14 (original): The method of claim 13 wherein said differentiating conditions comprise addition to growth medium of an effective amount of a factor that promotes differentiation into non-process bearing A2B5⁺GFAP⁺ astrocytes and said glial cells are A2B5⁺GFAP⁺ astrocytes.

Attorney Docket No.: UT-0030
Inventors: Rao et al.
Serial No.: 09/736,728
Filing Date: December 14, 2000
Page 4

Claim 15 (original): The method of claim 14 wherein said factor that promotes differentiation into non-process bearing A2B5⁺ GFAP⁺ astrocytes comprises fetal calf serum.

Claim 16 (original): The method of claim 13 wherein said differentiating conditions comprise addition to growth medium of an effective amount of a factor that promotes differentiation into process bearing A2B5⁺GFAP⁺ astrocytes and said glial cells are A2B5⁺GFAP⁺ astrocytes.

Claim 17 (original): The method of claim 16 wherein said factor that promotes differentiation into process bearing A2B5⁺GFAP⁺ astrocytes comprises ciliary neurotrophic factor and basic fibroblast growth factor.

Claim 18 (original): The method of claim 13 wherein said differentiating conditions comprise addition to growth medium of an effective amount of a factor that promotes differentiation into oligodendrocytes and said glial cells are oligodendrocytes.

Claim 19 (original): The method of claim 18 wherein said factor that promotes differentiation into oligodendrocytes comprises platelet-derived growth factor and thyroid hormone (T3).

Claims 20-48 (canceled)

Claim 49 (currently amended): A method for continuously propagating glial restricted precursor cells phenotypically

Attorney Docket No.: UT-0030
Inventors: Rao et al.
Serial No.: 09/736,728
Filing Date: December 14, 2000
Page 5

distinct from O-2A progenitor cells comprising the steps of:

(a) providing said glial restricted precursor cells expressing A2B5 antigen which are phenotypically distinct from O-2A progenitor cells and which are isolated by positive immunoselection with an A2B5 antibody selecting cells expressing A2B5 antigen; and

(b) culturing said glial restricted precursor cells which are phenotypically distinct from O-2A progenitor cells in vitro in the presence of minimal essential salts and effective amounts of platelet derived growth factor and fibroblast growth factor.